

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



VOL. LVII. - NO. 27.

BOSTON, MASS., SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1898.

WHOLE NO. 2936

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society

LINUS DARLING,
PROPRIETOR.
ISSUED WEEKLY AT
JOHN HANCOCK BUILDING
178 DEVONSHIRE STREET, BOSTON, MASS.
NEW YORK OFFICE:
150 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

TERMS:
\$2.00 per annum, in advance. \$2.50 if not paid in advance. Postage free. Single copies 5 cents.
No paper discontinued, except at the option of the proprietor, until all arrearages are paid.

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Rates of Advertising:
12 1-2 cents per line for first insertion.
8 1-4 cents for each subsequent insertion.

AGRICULTURAL.

Onions and radishes should be sown as early in April as possible. The soil must be clean, rich and light. Nitrate of soda is an excellent fertilizer for onions.

Rhubarb leaves and refuse should be thrown in the middle of the row when the stalks are gathered. They will restore plant food to soil and help keep down the weeds.

Soil for beets should be rich, mellow and deep, sow now in drills two inches deep, the rows from fifteen to eighteen inches apart, and the seeds from one to two inches apart.

SOME rainy day, now that the hay is most gone, will be a good time to clean up the barn, including the floors and mangers. Chaff and refuse may be put in bags for the poultry next winter.

The floors of the bay and the loft should be repaired and put in order, and the walls of the cow stables whitewashed. If the manure has all been carted out of the cellar cover the ground with several inches of fresh dirt.

A GREAT deal of nonsense has been written about composting and preparing hen manure. On a farm, a good enough way is simply to mix it with the other manure and use it the same way. There is no need of spending a good deal of valuable time in preparing it. If the hen manure is to be used alone it will be in fairly good condition if earth has been thrown under the roosts, enough to about equal the bulk of the manure.

Those who have rather late ground on which potatoes are to be planted will find it worth while to sprout the seed now. Merely set them in a warm, light place and let them send out shoots about three inches long. As soon as the ground can be worked plant the potatoes, handling them carefully so as not to break off the shoots, allowing one sprout to each piece of seed. In this way potatoes can be raised on late land as soon as on early land by the ordinary method.

WHERE it is possible to choose the shape of a garden it should be long and narrow, thus making long rows, and a convenient use of horse tools possible. Ten times the space can be cultivated by horse as could be worked by hand. Some attention should be paid to rotation of crops in a garden; some vegetables will not do well even two years in succession in the same spot. This is especially true with peas, potatoes, radishes, turnips and cabbage. Give these vegetables fresh land as often as possible. Permanent vegetables like rhubarb and asparagus of course occupy the same land every year, but they should be ranged in long rows and never in short rows or clumps if labor is valued.

Suggestions for Spring.

Now is the best time in the year to set out evergreen trees and they add so much to the beauty of the home that every one should make an effort this spring to set out a few. The hemlock is truly a very beautiful tree, and I am not sure as there is a prettier evergreen, although it will be well to set a few white pines and Norway spruces to add variety. In a windy location a windbreak of evergreen trees will add a great deal to the comfort of the home. It ought to be the farmer's aim to practise intensive cultivation; because by no other plan can success on the farm be so great. Let every acre be made to count for all that it possibly can be made to and at the same time manage the farm so that every acre will be constantly growing better. It is possible to do this by a proper rotation of crops and by keeping what stock can be fed and applying the manure to the soil. The nearer like a garden the fields can be made the better.

For the last two years, I have let the poultry have unrestricted range of the farm and garden. To be sure, they will destroy some grain, but the most of it goes to make eggs and meat; and they eat a very large number of grasshoppers, worms and insects, which will go a long way towards paying for that damage they do. So far as my experience goes, hens lay a great deal better when they have a good range. No matter how well I feed and care for them in confinement, the eggs are not near as plenty as when the hens go and come when they please. The hens look nicer and cleaner, too, when at liberty, so that on the whole I am more than half inclined to think that for me, at least, it is best to let them run.

The poultry manure ought to be carefully saved and used. No farmer can afford to buy fertilizers until he carefully exhausts all manurial resources of the farm.

F. H. Dow.

Steuken Co., N. Y.

What Goes with the Farm.

The season when many farms are sold is at hand, and it is interesting to know what items, according to an eminent legal authority, are included when the farm is transferred.

Fences are included, but not loose fence material. Hop poles or bean poles, if they have been once used, are included. Poles laid loosely across the scaffolding of the barn are not a part of the estate. Standing trees go with the farm but cord-wood does not. In general, the deed includes the land, the buildings, and all articles which are so attached, if they cannot be removed without injury.

How Can They Sleep?

Strange that some farmers will neglect to have their buildings protected by insurance, in view of the fact accepted by insurance companies that farm structures are a particularly risky class of property. It would be supposed that an uninsured farmer would find it hard to sleep nights in these times of tramps and "spontaneous combustion."

Chimneys are often badly built and flues defective. Stoves are set near the woodwork and pipes run unprotected through wooden partitions. Ashes are kept in wooden boxes. Badly made lanterns are used in the barn, and half-dried hay is put in the mows. All this by the very farmers who claim that insurance doesn't pay.

Silage Stacks.

A plan for preserving fodder which is successful in England ought to be tested in this country at the experiment stations. If it is possible to preserve green fodder without a silo our farmers ought to know it.

The English silage stacks are made by stacking up the fodder in the ordinary manner and after it becomes settled it is pared around with a hay knife and the parings put on top. Salt is sprinkled around the outside for a width of about fifteen inches, each layer of fodder being sprinkled by itself.

Making Provision for Summer Soiling for the Dairy.

It may seem a little early to talk about dry or scant summer pastures, and the necessity of providing extra feed for the cows when the milk begins to fail during the hot days of next July, but if this provision is to be made it is none too early to arrange for what is to be done. Here at the East the snow still lies (March 4) heavy on the ground, but far away at the West and South seedling may even now be in progress.

This work of providing extra forage for cows when the pastures begin to fail will depend very much on the locality and the variety and condition of the grasses there growing. It is possible that in some portions of the country, especially where the pastures are comparatively new, or the famous Kentucky blue or other equally good grasses predominate, there will be little necessity for providing for extra feed for late summer or early fall, but it is probable these are the exceptions to the general rule.

Farmers who make dairying a leading industry are realizing more and more the importance of, as far as possible, keeping up the flow of milk through the season. True, this requires considerable time and labor in growing the necessary crops for the purpose, but this should not be considered burdensome when the results will fully justify the expenditure.

Now as to what crops shall be raised for the purpose will depend largely on what will be found the most profitable or easily produced in any particular locality. The consideration should be to select those plants that will get in condition as early as may be desirable for use. Wherever the clovers can be extensively raised these will make the best of early green feed for cows. Those farmers who live where alfalfa flourishes should have in this one of the best crops for the purpose, particularly as it yields so many cuttings in the season. But all cannot avail themselves of this most excellent forage plant and something else must be used instead. Oats, or oats and peas sown together as early as possible and for a time at frequent intervals—say, once in two weeks—would give a succession of green feed until corn, the great forage crop, be far enough advanced to feed. Here at the East we often find it necessary to feed grain before the corn gets in condition to use, but in some cases the oats and peas might be substituted for this.

But it is quite possible that before long ensilage will become the staple feed in summer and autumn, taking the place of the green fodder crops. Experience is fast proving that this is most excellent for the purpose and will require much less work in feeding, after it is in the silo. But comparatively few follow this method now, so the next best thing to do will be to grow the crops and feed them green.

The season for feeding corn in its green state may be quite perceptibly extended by first planting some of the earlier varieties, to be succeeded by the kinds most generally grown for the principal crop. It will be found important to adapt the varieties of corn—as well as of all other crops grown—to the location and soil. Some of the sweet varieties will be found profitable for early planting, while the larger kinds will do well for later. In all parts of the country there will be some one best or most profitable variety for the general crop, which it will be well to use.

This fodder corn crop, as it is called, is a very profitable one when properly grown, but should be well fertilized, planted and cultivated to produce the best results. Now all of this can be readily and easily done by the use of implements adapted to the purpose, making it one of the most cheaply grown and productive crops that can be grown on the farm, wherever this plant will flourish. It should be borne in mind that quite an advanced state of maturity in the crop is found to produce decidedly the best results when being fed, hence the necessity of planting such varieties, or as early in the season as possible, in

order that this stage of development may be reached at a time when the crop is needed for use. This being the case it is not best to plant so thickly but there will be a fair proportion of ears. This rule will also apply when it is desirable to cure any part of the crop to feed when dry, or to put in the silo. This is found to be the result of experience as well as of scientific investigation.

E. R. TOWLE.

Franklin Co., Vt.

The Plum Grower's Foe.

The plum trees must be gone through very carefully in March and all specks and lumps of black knot removed. No matter if three-fourths of the tree has to be sawed off, provided the rest of the tree is left perfectly sound. A plum tree will sprout with wonderful vigor and the balance will soon be restored. Remember that the small seeds of which every knot is full, will catch and spread the plague. Rub a knot on the hand and then upon a raw place on the tree and you have started a new knot. Better burn everything that is sawn off and spread grafting wax over every wound and raw place. It is convenient to tackle the plum trees when grafting is being done, as plenty of wax is then to be had.

Kinds of Apples for Europe.

When planting large orchards of apples it is well to have an eye on the British and German market. An apple that will sell there will sell anywhere, and the grower is prepared to ship his surplus where prices are best.

Hitherto the Baldwin has been a profitable apple to send to the British market, and sells well, especially when high colored. Yet it is very questionable whether it will maintain its position, because of its lack of high quality. The Rhode Island Greening is gaining in favor there, bidding fair to outstrip the Baldwin before long. Tompkins King is much esteemed and sells at high figures. The Northern Spy when well grown is also much esteemed in its season.

The Oldenburg, if picked before it shows any yellow and after it has put on its bluish color, ships well, if properly handled, and arrives there in prime condition. The next in season is the Gravenstein, and commands the very highest price, next to the St. Lawrence, and close upon it the Ribstone Pippin, which, when prime, sells there for over twenty shilling sterling per barrel. The Blenheim Pippin rivals the Ribstone in price. These two varieties when prime will always sell there at high figures.

Grass for Hay and Pasture.

The arrival of seeding down time always brings several requests for grass seed formulas. So much depends on the soil, location and purpose for which the hay is to be devoted that no formula can be given which will suit all conditions. The following are as good as any for general purposes.

Grasses for hay and permanent pasture:

(HENRY)

Timothy, seven pounds; orchard, four pounds; Italian rye, two pounds; perennial rye, two pounds; fall oat, two pounds; red top, two pounds; Kentucky blue, two pounds; alfalfa, four pounds; white clover, one pound; alsike clover, one pound; red clover, two pounds; total twenty-nine pounds.

(ELINT.)

1. One-half bushel (6 pounds) redtop, one peck (11 pounds) timothy, five pounds red clover.
2. One bushel (12 pounds) redtop, one peck (11 pounds) timothy, eight pounds red clover.
3. Four quarts (11-2 pounds) redtop, one peck (11 pounds) timothy, two quarts red clover, one pint white clover.
4. Twelve quarts (16 1-2 pounds) timothy, four pounds clover.
5. One bushel redtop, one-half bushel timothy, ten pounds clover.
6. One peck redtop, one peck timothy, ten pounds clover, etc.

Grades of Wool.

Wool is divided into fine, medium and coarse according to the diameter of the fiber. This sorting is done on the wool when it is at the commission house and depends on the sorter's judgment. The fine wool is mostly merino, the medium wool is from the Southdown, Hampshire, Suffolk, Shropshire, Oxford, Dorset, Exmoor and Cheviot. The coarse wool breeds are the Leicester, Lincoln, Cotswold, Romney, Marsh and Blackfaced.



ROCK MAPLE.

MULBERRY trees are not so hardy as some other fruit trees and should be planted where the growth will not be too rapid and will mature early. On soil that is too rich or moist, they will winter kill. The remarks refer to the Downing and American mulberry and not to the Russian, which is hardy enough for any situation.

We have had several inquiries for the address of Green's Nursery Co., who furnished us the cut of the Red Cross Currant last week. We should have given it as Rochester, N. Y., but took it for granted that every one knew where this well known nursery company was located.



SILVER FIR.

AUTUMN plowing is always best for a garden; it can then be worked much earlier and better in the spring. The best market gardeners plow their vegetable land twice, besides cultivating and harrowing it thoroughly before planting. For a small garden a cultivator is an excellent tool for working up the soil after plowing.

The Rock Maple is a favorite with Mr. Hadwen, who has many fine specimens on his grounds, one long avenue being shaded by these trees. It is a handsome tree and symmetrical in shape, as shown by our illustration this week. Evergreens are coming more into favor and we show a well shaped little specimen of the Blue Spruce. For both these illustrations we are indebted to the courtesy of Joseph Breck and Sons, Boston.

If the old strawberry bed is located on good grass land it is usually worthless the second year because of the extent to which the grass will crowd in. But in ground less suited to grass there will sometimes be strawberries enough to be worth picking for three or four years but they are smaller in size. The only way in growing berries for profit is to set out a new bed every spring.

THE PLOUGHMAN

Farmers' Meeting

Was held in Wesleyan Hall, 36 Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass.

March 26, 1898, at 10 o'clock A.

M. Essay by Hon. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester, Mass. Subject: "Ornamental Trees."

The speaker at the MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting last Saturday needed no introduction to his audience, as he was well known to the majority of those present, and his beautiful home in Worcester, adorned as it is by a great variety of trees and shrubs, illustrated the value of his subject for the morning's discussion, "Ornamental Trees." After the opening words by the chairman, Hon. B. P. Ware, Mr. Hadwen gave the following address:

ADDRESS.

Here and there in the suburbs of cities and country towns are seen many attempts at rural adornment and ornamentation with trees and plants, delighting with their unexpectedness, and pleasing by their simplicity, and harmonizing with nature in every degree of landscape. Also a neglect of these attractions are conspicuous along the highways and the byways, which are by far too manifest, by the utter want or neglect to use the means which God and Nature and sunshine has so abundantly placed within our scope. And yet the trees, the flowers, the lawn, the water, and a thousand kindred charms which only await development when nature is assisted by man are to ripen the instincts and cultivate the finer art of rural life and encourage the more delicate graces of home and rural surroundings.

What prevents giving our farms, our homes, our public and private grounds, an air of simple or elaborate adornment, in accordance with the means and time at our disposal?

We may make our grounds, however situated, large or small in area, so fitted to its exposure, its altitude, its simplicity, so governed by judicious planting and neatness, so rich in leaf and flower, so enduring and refining a feature in the landscape that heaven itself will commend, and sunshine and shower will nourish, and the passerby will forever, praise, and the grounds be themselves a primary and important feature in rural life and city life.

The liberal use of deciduous and coniferous trees and plants are imperative in landscape art, but should be carefully studied and selected with a view to the most charming effect. It is an art that should be accompanied by practical training in planting the many different kinds of trees, widely differing in their habits, by exposure and soil, to thrive well, and for years. Holes for trees and shrubs should be large and well prepared, giving the roots plenty of room for development, and a mound in the center of the hole for the tree to rest upon, giving the lateral roots a downward tendency, and preventing an open space under the tree, an important feature very much neglected.

Judicious pruning should be given at the time of transplanting, vigorous pruning with hard wooded sorts, and while they will be unsightly at first, they amply repay with increased growth and luxuriant foliage.

In planting parks with a view to their future development and general use for the public the raw materials of two parks or ground, can be found alike; good soil is one of the chief requisites for all grounds, if they are to be adorned with permanent trees or shrubs, to keep in harmony with the natural contour of surface, and the face of Nature should be the guide to its embellishment. The higher art is simple in expression and trees or plants should be placed in moist or dry situations, as experience teaches best suited to their growth and longevity. Planting for immediate effect or crowding trees together is not well adapted to openness, in part essential to permanent landscape. It must soon be followed by severe thinning out the unsightly trees and shrubs, always out of harmony where beauty should reign at every turn. For God makes the trees and man makes the harmony.

Parks are of use to bring the city and country in closer proximity and to contribute the greatest enjoyment for the greatest number should be the law. The best parks are simple in their expression, the best adornment is with groups of trees or shrubs found to thrive in the locality, either naturally or by art. Simplicity of design and economy of maintenance are essential conditions too often overlooked. If possible, ornamental water should be a feature, as no landscape is complete without ponds and bridges. Fountains and jets are exceedingly beautiful, commanding themselves to the well trained eyes of practical people.

Now then, what are some of the best trees and shrubs to plant, for the development of landscape is always commensurate with the advancement of the most cultivated thinkers and general knowledge between numbers of men engaged in this pursuit.

The maples, both indigenous or exotic, comprise many sorts. Indeed, there is no family of trees more extensively planted or that gives greater satisfaction. Their shapely form and variety of foliage, with most exquisite coloring, renders them popular. Among the Norway family of maples the Schwedleri is proving a

great acquisition with its robust habit of growth, large and luxuriant leaf opening in spring a bright crimson, unlike any other maple in its season, in autumn turning to a delicate bronze, in happy contrast with the autumnal tint of other trees.

Then there is the Reitenbachii, almost the exact counterpart of the Schwedleri, opening green in spring and gradually turning to bright crimson in autumn.

The Geneva, a native of this country, of the Norway type, comes out a rich crimson purple in spring, retaining its color through the season.

The Sycamore Maple, variety purpuria, is of vigorous habit. The leaves are a fine green on the upper side and colored purple on the under side, a beautiful tree in a gentle wind.

The Ginnalis is a charming maple of shrubby growth, with deeply cut leaves and intensely bright crimson in autumn.

I have growing on my place eighteen sorts of maples, giving great variety of form and coloring.

We have no more impressive tree than the oak, often retaining its foliage during the winter. They are more difficult of transplanting than the Maple. They require hard pruning when planted, almost to the pole. The White Oak, Scarlet Oak, Red Oak, Yellow Oak, Chestnut Oak, Pin Oak, are the leading sorts. There is no class of trees that grows so stately and are longer lived than the oaks.

The Beeches are very valuable trees for ornament, differing in their variety from other trees, being peculiar in their tendency of retaining their leaves during the winter, and, either green in leaf or browned by frost, form a picturesque family the year round.

The White, a native beech, is indigenous here on high or moist places, but rarely bears nuts as it does further north. The branches extend outward from the trunk in a horizontal position, the leaf a light green, is graceful in its effect.

The English Beech is more compact and of slower growth, is stronger in form and the foliage of deeper color, remaining on the trees during the winter and until the new leaf puts forth in the spring.

The Purple Beech is so strikingly beautiful in the opening leaf that it is desirable in any grounds and always an object of admiration. They prove to be long lived but will bear liberal dressing of manure, which has a marked effect in color of the foliage.

If I ever coveted a tree, the property of another, it was the Purple Beech; and I am not prepared, either for the lawn, or for a conspicuous position in any grounds, to assign the Purple Beech a second place. It is said to have had its origin in Germany. When properly grown it has so many desirable characteristics that no grounds of any pretensions should be without it. I know of a tree where the lower branches extend fifty feet. In early spring, when the leaves are intensely purple, and when agitated by wind, in strong sunlight, its brilliancy is unequalled by any of the tree family, and would vie successfully with any of the gorgeous tints of other trees in autumn.

The Fern Leaved Beech is the most charming and shapely of the beeches; with its leaf so artistically cut and furnished in the greatest abundance, it makes a striking object of symmetry and beauty, and withstands the ice storms without injury.

The Fern-Leaved Beech is a tree conspicuous for the clean cut and airy lightness of its foliage; a very pleasing tree to the cultivated eye, and sure to be marked in any collection as one of nature's best works in the beeches. Its growth is slow unless planted in good soil, when it makes a vigorous growth.

The American Beech, found more or less over our northern regions, is much admired for its singularly neat and airy foliage, which often adheres to the branches during the winter. When in groups, they are delightful in their many excellent features; always in full foliage, as but few insects injure them.

The Lindens (Tilia), once so popular, are now much less planted. The American, commonly called Bass, makes a stately tree, with large leaf; and in July their flowers fill the air with delicate perfume.

The birches are an ornamental class of trees quite distinct in their habits of growth and foliage, and prove well adapted to many situations and charming in the landscape. The Cut Leaved Birch is most esteemed and more largely used for planting. It makes a graceful tree of upright and partially weeping growth. With the graceful sweep of its pendulous branches, its beautifully cut and varnished leaf, and its snow white bark, it must rank Queen of the Birches.

The Canoe Birch about here is in its southern limit, and does not attain the same diameter of trunk that it does in more northern regions. I have watched the growth of one specimen for nearly forty years, until it is now almost two feet in diameter; its clear white pearly bark giving a marked effect to the trunk, well furnished with branch and leaf. Where it flourishes, it is truly a picturesque tree, of spreading graceful form, and its cultivation should be encouraged.

The Black Birch, or Sweet Birch, is the very first of the family that the boy learns to recognize, as he bites the fragrant bark. The tree has many fine features and is beautiful in its golden racemes, and airy leaf; it is deservedly finding its way from the wild to cultivated grounds, and thrives there.

There has been recently introduced, I believe from England, the Purple Birch. Both bark and leaf are intensely purple, promising to cope with the Purple Beech. With purple tint and glossy leaf, it is conspicuous; my own is quite young, but of thrifty growth, and thirty-five feet in height.

(Continued on Second Page.)

POULTRY.

The "Outs" of the Breeds.

To read the accounts about the different breeds written by interested breeders one would think that each variety were perfection itself. But the beginner who is induced by these glowing descriptions to try several breeds, finds that some kinds are nearly worthless for his circumstances and that all "kinds" have their drawbacks. Someone may be prevented from getting the hen fever too severely by reading the following list of defects:

The Leghorn, queen of layers, is the poorest of setters in small in body and flesh is only of fair quality, they are rather hard to keep shut up, they will fly over anything short of an extra high fence. The eggs are light colored and too small for fancy trade.

The Plymouth Rocks, most popular of general purpose breeds, are not equal to the smaller breeds as layers and eat more. Their dark pin feathers give some trouble when dressing for market. Only a few strains lay eggs dark enough to command the top prices. As a table fowl the quality is good but not the very best.

The Wyandottes have the same outs as the Plymouth Rocks. The White Wyandottes avoid some of the defects of the two preceding but are a little later in maturing and some of the birds lay rather small eggs.

The Asiatic breeds, Cochins and Brahmas, are rather slow in maturing and are great eaters. The Cochins give a good deal of trouble with their persistent setting, and none of the Asiatics will lay as many eggs in a year as the small breeds. The flesh of the Cochins is inclined to be oily in the older birds. They are rather clumsy mothers.

The beautiful Hamburgs lay many eggs, but very small ones. The skins and legs are dark, and the birds are light weight.

The Minorcas lay large eggs but not quite so many as the Leghorn. The skin and legs are dark. They are not quite so hardy as some other kinds. Black Spanish have about the same outs as the Minorcas and most strains are inferior to Minorcas in vigor and laying qualities.

The Dominique are an old fashioned breed with good general qualities, but they will not lay so many eggs as some of the other breeds.

The Games have many good qualities but eggs are small and not so very numerous, and the fowls are rather quarrelsome.

The above list includes the varieties commonly kept, and it will be seen that none of them are without faults.

A Can Fountain.

A good and cheap drinking fountain can be made of a tin can with a small hole in one end near the side of the can under which is soldered a crescent shaped piece of tin forming a lip or a small receptacle for water. If the can is filled with water and then placed on its side, a small quantity of water will run out of the opening and remain in this receptacle shaped lip. As the chicks drink this water a quantity of air will pass into the opening and a little more water will flow out. This kind of fountain will keep before the chickens a small quantity of water at all times accessible. By exercising care and keeping the fountain thoroughly clean, satisfactory results are easily obtained from this arrangement.

Care of Young Chicks.

On the average farm, the young chicks are fed the first thing with corn meal, dough or something of the kind, sometimes this meal is fresh and sometimes it is sour, in either condition it is poor food for very young chicks.

If the weather is favorable and they have plenty of range, most of them may live, but the chances are that a great many will die from dysentery and the rest will not grow as they ought to.

Food should be cooked. Bread crumbs are good to start with, also a little chopped boiled egg. Some large growers make a sort of Johnny cake for young chicks. Granulated oats are a favorite food with some large breeders, and brooder chicks are encouraged to scratch by scattering some fine seed like the millet seed in the litter to encourage the chicks to scratch for it. After the chicks are two weeks old less digestible food can be given to some extent, such as broken wheat and granulated oats. It should be stated that some growers claim that injury results from feeding granulated oats, but there probably will be no trouble unless the chicks are very early ones and have not an efficient range and exercise. There is also difference of opinion about feeding cracked corn where the coarser particles have been sifted out to chickens after they get a few weeks old. It is certain at least that cracked corn is rather hard to digest, and the chicks should have plenty of fine, sharp, hard grit. While speaking of food for very young chicks it should be spoken that broken crackers which can be bought at the store or cracker

factory very cheaply make a good ration. Chickens are more liable to indigestion than old hens and should be well supplied with pounded charcoal as a corrective. No moist food ought to be given until the chicks are three weeks old then they can stand Indian meal dough very well, but to get the best growth it should be mixed with milk instead of water. If the mixed meal is allowed to stand until it gets soured it is unfit for chicken food. They will eat it but do not thrive. I should also give them a variety such as cracked oats, wheat, scraps, green food, etc.

If chickens are successfully brought up to four weeks of age they will go through all right if kept exercising and not allowed to get wet and chilled.

Shipping Coops.

Inspection of the shipping coops in which live poultry come to Boston, shows considerable evidence of cruelty. In shipping live poultry the coops should be high enough to allow the fowls to stand upright without bending their legs. There should be partitions in large coops to prevent the chickens from being thrown together in a mass when the coops are shifted. Large coops should never be used in warm weather.

Poultry Pays.

Some farmers are inclined to sneer at poultry and call it a "little business." I would say in reply that the consumption of poultry and eggs is enormous, and ever on the increase. Eggs are a cash article and every day necessity. Peddlers scour the country winter and summer paying the cash. Large quantities are imported each season from Canada and Europe. The profits on eggs are twice as much as any other branch of farming. In the face of the facts, gentlemen,

Raise your hats while the cocks crow, And whatever you say, "go slow;" How your heads while the hens lay, For, as sure as you live, poultry pays.

W. A. CROSBY.

Poultry Notes.

Young chickens require an immense amount of exercise. Much more than old hens.

Eggs are extra of grain, grass and waste food generally, and are one of the most convenient and profitable forms in which to market such products.

It is a question just how much warm feeding pays. It has been claimed that warming alone will double the number of eggs as compared with fowls where cold grain is fed entirely.

Proper feeding two or three weeks before the fowls are killed for market will make a great difference in the price. There is nothing like corn and gluten meal to give the required yellowness and plumpness.

When feeding the young chicks, it is well to take the edge off from the old hen's appetite by feeding her with some corn which the young chickens cannot eat. Then feed the young chickens with chopped eggs, bread crumbs and other fancy food.

In constructing home made brooders, corners are a nuisance and should be avoided as far as possible. A square top is the cheapest but the corners may be filled in. It should be made so that the floor space can be easily seen and the whole apparatus cleaned without trouble.

The plum trees are becoming very popular for setting in hen yards. Everything considered these are probably the best fruit for such situations, and pears stand second. Plum trees are short lived in most sections and if they are set alternate with pear trees, the pear trees will take up all the space when they become large.

It is a mistake to fuss too much with a setting hen. It is not necessary to supply any moisture, and it is not necessary to interfere with the eggs or the chickens while hatching. Chickens which cannot get out of the shell are not strong enough to be worth bothering with. After the first few days and when it becomes certain that the hen means business and means to stick to her nest, she can attend to the rest of the process herself if she is let alone.

Experiments at the Utah station proved that exercise has definite value in lowering the cost of egg production. Pens of laying hens that were induced to take exercise laid so many more eggs that the cost per dozen was one-fourth less than in pens where the hens were not exercised. On farms where a great deal of corn is fed the difference would doubtless be greater; for hens fed on fattening food and not exercised seldom lay at all in winter.

Hood

Farm

Jerseys

FOR SALE—Inbred Combination. Dropped Feb. 25, 1897. Solid color. Size, 10 in. x 14 in. 1st. by diploma. 1st. of 16 tested daughters. Dam, Port. 1st. of 16 tested daughters. 2nd. of 16 tested daughters. 3rd. of 16 tested daughters. 4th. of 16 tested daughters. 5th. of 16 tested daughters. 6th. of 16 tested daughters. 7th. of 16 tested daughters. 8th. of 16 tested daughters. 9th. of 16 tested daughters. 10th. of 16 tested daughters. 11th. of 16 tested daughters. 12th. of 16 tested daughters. 13th. of 16 tested daughters. 14th. of 16 tested daughters. 15th. of 16 tested daughters. 16th. of 16 tested daughters. 17th. of 16 tested daughters. 18th. of 16 tested daughters. 19th. of 16 tested daughters. 20th. of 16 tested daughters. 21st. of 16 tested daughters. 22nd. of 16 tested daughters. 23rd. of 16 tested daughters. 24th. of 16 tested daughters. 25th. of 16 tested daughters. 26th. of 16 tested daughters. 27th. of 16 tested daughters. 28th. of 16 tested daughters. 29th. of 16 tested daughters. 30th. of 16 tested daughters. 31st. of 16 tested daughters. 32nd. of 16 tested daughters. 33rd. of 16 tested daughters. 34th. of 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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

BOSTON, APRIL 2, 1898.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN FARMERS' MEETING

Saturday, April 9, 1898, 10 A. M.

Essay by ABEL F. STEVENS, of Wellesley, Mass. Subject, Practical Gardening: Fruit and Vegetable Culture.

The next MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting will be held at Wesleyan Hall, 36 Bromfield St., Saturday morning, April 9, 1898, beginning at ten o'clock. Mr. Abel F. Stevens of Wellesley, Mass., will speak on "Practical Gardening: Fruit and Vegetable Culture."

This will be the last meeting of the season and we hope there will be a large attendance. The subject is a broad one and will bring out many points of value and occasion much discussion. Mr. Stevens is well fitted to speak on this topic and he will bring to the meeting information of practical value. The PLOUGHMAN extends a cordial invitation to all to attend, especially to the ladies who will be much interested in the part of Mr. Stevens' essay relating to the growing of plants and flowers.

PLENTY of work and good digestion is a good remedy for the blues.

A MAN who prays for good crops and lets the weeds grow had better save his breath.

AN old habit is stronger than a man's right arm. Fortunate the man whose habits are good ones.

A MAN who has the pluck and stamina to succeed in the Klondike will succeed here with less hardship.

YES, time is money and every spare minute is a coin, but don't be afraid to spend a few of them on yourself.

NOWHERE in this country are men more needed who are not afraid to do their duty, than as officials in small towns.

The disputed questions between the Milk Producers' Union and the contractors are to be settled by arbitration, both parties agreeing to abide by such decision.

EVERY man has plenty of chances, but very few have brains enough to know a chance when they see it. In fact with brains no chance is needed; it can be made.

MORE men are needed who love the soil and are not ashamed of their calling. A man who has a poor opinion of farming will never be a shining light in the agricultural world.

FARMERS should show progressive spirit and encourage new enterprises in a town, but the man who invests his hard earned dollars in every new manufacturing concern that comes to town will soon be wise but poor.

ANOTHER of the PLOUGHMAN's old subscribers has just passed away, Mr. E. H. Adams of East Milton, Mass., who died on March 21, aged seventy-five years. Mr. Adams has been an appreciative reader and subscriber of the paper ever since he was sixteen years old.

Now begins the season when the farmer boy comes to the city expecting to find a choice position; to save his employer's life or property, and be taken into partnership and to associate with the four hundred, like the boys in the story books. He will be about as likely to strike a Klondike by digging in the back lot.

As the season of Farmers' Meetings draw to a close many gratifying expressions of approval come to our notice. The farmers' meeting idea is unique with the PLOUGHMAN, and is its distinguishing feature. Those who have attended, or read the reports have often expressed the opinion that single meetings were to them more worth the price of the paper for the whole year. It is true that nothing in the way of agricultural teaching will so surely go to the right spot and so quickly winnow out the truth and common sense from new ideas as an address from a specialist, followed by questions and free discussions on the part of such solid, practical and successful farmers as those who attend our meetings.

THE trouble with a good many half dead towns is the scarcity of young people, but if there are two or three active youthful spirits left, something can be done. There must be one or two leaders, and with these there will be enough to make up the rank and file. The ministers, school teachers and other young professionals should be included and a beginning made by starting some society, no matter what, which will bind together and interest its members. Whatever the common interest, religious work, temperance, literature, village improvement, there should be some definite object concerning which there is already a degree of common interest. The mere existence of such a society, if properly worked up, will begin to quicken social life and make the town better worth living in. It will often develop in new directions and will stimulate to more active life the churches, granges and other older organizations of the place. If the town is dull no one on earth but the young people who live there can stir it up.

DR. GREENE'S GREAT PRIVATE LECTURE TO WOMEN.

Concerns All Women Vitally and Deeply.

No One Better Able to Give Advice than Dr. Greene.

The Leading Specialist in Women's Complaints.

Successful Physician in Chronic Diseases

No Charge for Consultation, Examination or Advice.

You can Consult Dr. Greene Absolutely Free.

He Places Sure Means of Cure Within Reach of all.

The third great lecture of Dr. Greene, of 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., in Music Hall, Boston, was a most important private discourse to women. Not for years has so powerful, interesting and instructive a lecture been given to women, a lecture so perfectly and accurately illustrated by stereopticon pictures and wonderful X-Ray effects, so plainly, graphically and completely described, and so forcibly and ably delivered by the learned Doctor, that every woman in the vast audience learned more about herself in an hour and understood herself better than she ever knew or understood before.

Particularly was it valuable to those women, and we are obliged to say that they are by far the great majority of womankind, who are ill, out of health, or suffering from some of those weaknesses, debility or diseases which serve to make the average woman's life anything but easy and pleasant.

It was at Dr. Greene's great private lecture that women became fully aware of just what those weaknesses and diseases are, of their nervous and physical conditions, of the necessities and requirements of their systems, of what is essential to maintain health, and how that health can be regained and restored when lost or impaired.

Women are great sufferers from disease. The aching head, nerves all a-jar and shaken by overstrain, the utter weakness and prostration from overwork, worry and the cares of life, the sleepless, restless nights followed by tired waking mornings, the weary pains, the dragging weakness of female complaints, the untimely misery and weariness of it all, make dark life's picture with the discouragement of despair.

Yet no woman should despair on account of her weakness and ill health. It is to such women, bent and bowed under the weight of nervous and physical ailments, that Dr. Greene's lecture brought again the light of encouragement, hope, faith—faith that there is a cure, that there is no case of disease, however great the weakness, and however much the suffering, which is not within reach of his skillful treatment and cure by his wonderful remedies. And it is in regard to these marvellous vegetable medicines which Dr. Greene has discovered and compounded for the cure of disease, that we wish to speak most particularly and emphatically. While Dr. Greene is recognized at the present day as the most successful physician in the cure of all forms of nervous, chronic or lingering complaints, and while from his vast experience in having the latest medical practice in the world among the sick and suffering, his profound knowledge of diseases and his skillful treatment are unsurpassed by any other physician, still we believe that Dr. Greene's truly remarkable and astonishing success in curing complaints of all kinds, is principally due to the grand curative virtues of his wonderful remedies—those great and most valuable medical discoveries he has made among harmless vegetable medicines, the true remedies of nature which a wise Providence ordained for relief from human ills and which always cure and are curative in their very nature of action.

Dr. Greene has wondrous success in curing diseases with these purely vegetable medicines, harmless but sure in their action, remedies which cannot possibly injure the system in any way and yet are powerful in restoring health and absolutely certain in their health and strength giving properties. Dr. Greene does not employ in his treatment of the sick the poisonous drugs used by ordinary physicians, and which not only fail to cure nervous and chronic diseases, but often do injury and irreparable harm.

It is simply astounding to the ordinary observer who realizes for the first time the quick, sure and positive action of Dr. Greene's system of medicine in curing disease, and experiences their almost magical power in making the sick well, banishing pain, weakness, suffering and disease—giving the wellnigh discouraged and disheartened sufferer a new hope, a new happiness in the vigorous enjoyment of perfect and robust health.

And another matter of greatest value and moment to the people is that Dr. Greene can be consulted absolutely free, without charge of any kind. Consultation, examination and advice are entirely free to the people. You are welcome to call, or write to Dr. Greene about your case absolutely without cost to you of any kind. His office is 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., where all are welcome and where large and ample reception and consulting rooms are completely at the service and convenience of those desiring free consultation and advice. Dr. Greene's laboratory, in which are compounded and prepared these most wonderful health-giving medicines, is one of the largest medicine manufacturing in the world.

For the benefit of the thousands who live at too great a distance to make it convenient to call at the office, or those who for any other reason prefer to write to the Doctor for consultation and advice about their cases, Dr. Greene has completed and perfected the most successful system of treatment through letter correspondence which the world has ever known. The Doctor's sole experience among diseases, his great knowledge of symptoms and their meaning, and his ability to understand cases and conditions described to him by letter, make it absolutely certain that the majority of cases can be cured at their homes. They have only to write to Dr. Greene a full description of their case and later will be returned in each case, perfectly and completely explaining the symptoms and disease so that the patient will know exactly what the matter, whether a cure is possible, and just what the necessary medicine will cost to effect a cure. All this is absolutely free of charge. In this way a person can have a thorough examination of the case made and get an accurate knowledge of what is the matter without cost of any kind. The medicines, the prices of which are always low and within the reach of all, can be sent for or not, as the person chooses.

We should advise all who are sick, out of health or suffering from any weakness, debility or complaint, to grasp this sure opportunity of cure and consult Dr. Greene at his office, 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., or write in regard to their cases at once and without delay.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The long expected report of the naval court on the cause of the Maine explosion reached the President the latter part of last week, and after careful consideration by him, was sent, with a short message concerning it, to Congress on Monday. There was great excitement in Washington when it was known the report was to be made public and the crowds at the Capitol were greater than at any time for twenty-five years, excepting at the inauguration of a President. The President's message briefly outlined the circumstances of the disaster, the finding of the court of inquiry, stated that the result of the investigation and the views of the United States government thereon had been communicated to the Spanish government, and expressed the belief that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation would dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments. The message of the President, result of the investigations and the testimony were then referred to the committee on foreign relations, and Congress adjourned out of respect to the memory of Congressman Simpkins of Massachusetts, who died suddenly Saturday night.

As briefly outlined in the President's message the result of the investigation of the naval court of inquiry was as follows: When the Maine arrived at Havana she was conducted by the regular government pilot to buoy No. 4, to which she was moored in from five and one-half to six fathoms of water. The state of discipline on board and the condition of her magazines, boilers, coal bunkers and storage compartments are passed in review with the conclusion that excellent order prevailed and that no indication of any cause for an internal explosion existed in any quarter. At eight o'clock in the evening of Feb. 15 everything had been reported secure and all was quiet. At forty minutes past nine o'clock the vessel was suddenly destroyed. There were two distinct explosions with a brief interval between them. The first lifted the forward part of the ship very perceptibly; the second, which was more open, prolonged and of greater volume, is attributed by the court to partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

The evidence of the divers establishes that the afterpart of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

The conclusions of the court are: That the loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of her crew.

That the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the explosion of two or more of her forward magazines; and, that no evidence has been obtainable fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

The President has adopted the wise course of treating the Maine explosion and the question of intervention in Cuban affairs as two distinct matters. Negotiations are now in progress between the United States and Spain tending to a fair and speedy settlement of the Cuban question, all communications being conservative in tone, although dignified and firm. The United States has informed the Spanish government that the condition of affairs in Cuba can no longer be tolerated and expressed its belief that the present Spanish policy in that unfortunate island will not be able to bring these conditions to a close. Spain's reply to this communication is reassuring and the prospects appear bright for a satisfactory settlement of some kind. It is believed that no compromise will be accepted by this government which does not involve prompt cessation of hostilities, and the feeding by the United States of the reconcentrados, even if the question of the future government of Cuba is left to later negotiations. The exact nature of the negotiations have not been made public, but it may be said in a general way that they relate to an adjustment which will give Cuba her independence and will result in the retirement of the Spanish army from the island as well as in the surrender of the Spanish sovereignty. According to the plan, the island is to be purchased, the revenues of the island to be pledged for the payment of a syndicate of American and European financiers to administer the governmental finances of the new republic until its obligations are discharged.

It is believed that no settlement less radical than this would find favor with Congress as nothing short of the end of Spanish rule in Cuba would be tolerated.

Tuesday and Wednesday were exciting days in Washington. The Capitol was thronged with people, galleries and corridors packed and the excitement was at fever heat. Congress could no longer be restrained and vigorously expressed its dissatisfaction with the more deliberate and peaceful policy of the President. Resolution after resolution was introduced, some by the more conservative element in Congress, and calling for immediate intervention, and the recognition of Cuban independence. The President, however, has succeeded in gaining a little longer time for a diplomatic settlement of the Cuban matter, by promulgating that unless satisfactory progress was shown by the end of the week, the whole question would be turned over to Congress to be settled by them as might seem best. Reports from Spain indicate that a satisfactory settlement may be looked for within a short time and if the country is forced unnecessarily into a war with

Spain, the responsibility will rest with Congress and not with the President.

In the excitement and interest over the Cuban question, the troubles in the Far East have been almost lost sight of by this country, but this is not so in England, whose commercial supremacy in China is in grave danger. The latest reports state definitely that China has agreed to all the Russian demands and that Port Arthur and Ta Lien Wan have been leased for twenty-five years to Russia and on such terms that the lease is really equivalent to the cession of those ports to that power. These two ports in the hands of the Russian government places China almost entirely at the mercy of the former and threatens the independence of the Chinese empire, a fact that was recognized and made plain by Russia, when she objected to Japan taking possession of the same peninsula. In view of England's declaration some little time ago that equal commercial rights must be maintained in the Chinese ports, the question now arises, what will the British government do to demonstrate the fact that it meant what it said.

Spring Catalogues.

The GEO. A. SWIFT NURSERY CO., of DANVILLE, N. Y., send out a very unpretentious catalogue, although clear and straightforward in its statements. Instead of spending money on a profusely illustrated and costly catalogue, they prefer to let their customers have the benefit of the money thus saved, which enables them to sell their nursery stock at still more reasonable rates than previously. Their lists include the best in the nursery line and those who place their orders with them will be certain of satisfaction. They make a specialty of Japan Plums.

The I. C. ROGERS NURSERY, Danville, N. Y., issues an unassuming catalogue this spring which is written in a straightforward business-like way, which goes straight to the root of the matter. It gives some very valuable information as to grafting and budding and includes in the lists of trees offered for sale all the leading varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries, quinces, etc., guaranteeing them true to name and healthy and thrifty in every respect.—business trees, in fact.

Biliousness
Is caused by torpid liver, which prevents digestion and permits food to ferment and putrify in the stomach. Then follow dizziness, headache, insomnia, nervousness, and, if not relieved, bilious fever or blood poisoning. Hood's Pills stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure headache, dizziness, constipation, etc. 25 cents. Sold by all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Save Fertilizer Money

To save money that would be spent for fertilizers this year, let us suggest that you use all the manure you have—which all things considered is the best fertilizer made—and then supplement it with half as much Stockbridge Manure as you would naturally use of other kinds, for one Bag of Stockbridge will enrich as much ground as two Bags of the Ordinary Kinds.

As a matter of fact and of record, Bowker's Stockbridge Brands (the original special manures, introduced in 1875) are practically double strength manures, rich in all the ingredients, and particularly rich in potash, which is the largest requirement of all our eastern crops, and deficient in all our New England soils.

The following analyses show the guaranteed minimum test of the leading kinds, together with the average of the official tests for the past year. The samples were drawn in the open market.

STOCKBRIDGE POTATO AND VEGETABLE.

Minimum Guarantee.	Average of Official Tests.
4 per cent ammonia.	4.25 per cent ammonia.
7 per cent phosphoric acid.	6.00 per cent phosphoric acid.
10 per cent potash.	10.20 per cent potash.

Potash is almost the one thing needful for potatoes and vegetables. This brand will be found to contain double the amount of potash found in the average of the so-called potato manures.

STOCKBRIDGE GRASS AND FORAGE CROP.

Minimum Guarantee.	Average of Official Tests.
6 per cent ammonia.	6.15 per cent ammonia.
6 per cent phosphoric acid.	8.83 per cent phosphoric acid.
6 per cent potash.	6.02 per cent potash.

Grass and fodder crops require a very rich fertilizer, especially rich in ammonia in a chemical form. The Stockbridge contains it in this form, besides ample bone and potash.

STOCKBRIDGE SEEDING-DOWN MANURE.

Minimum Guarantee.	Average of Official Tests.
3 per cent ammonia.	3.01 per cent ammonia.
12 per cent phosphoric acid.	12.05 per cent phosphoric acid.
10 per cent potash.	10.19 per cent potash.

This fertilizer contains almost double the plant food that is found in the fertilizers usually sold for this purpose. It is particularly rich in bone and in potash.

STOCKBRIDGE CORN AND GRAIN MANURE.

Minimum Guarantee.	Average of Official Tests.
4 per cent ammonia.	4.04 per cent ammonia.
10 per cent phosphoric acid.	10.75 per cent phosphoric acid.
7 per cent potash.	7.20 per cent potash.

Corn requires a large amount of phosphoric acid, ample potash, and sufficient ammonia to carry the crop through to maturity. The Stockbridge Corn and Grain contains all these in the best forms.

These four brands have made the reputation of the Stockbridge Manures. The quality has not only been steadily improved, but the cost reduced. This has been accomplished by reduced cost of raw stock and reduced cost of manufacture.

Before accepting the statement that Brown's, Smith's, or Jones's "Specials" are equal to the Stockbridge (which are admitted to be the standard), make a comparison for yourself, and see if our statement is not true.

BOWKER FERTILIZER COMPANY,

43 Chatham St., Boston. 27 Beaver St., New York.

Washington News.

The threatened exclusion of American meats from Germany is looked upon here as merely a move to protect German home industry. Those best informed ridicule the idea that trichinae have been discovered in pork bearing the Government stamp of inspection. It is simply a revival of the old German cry of infected meats. The fact of the matter is that American hogs are grain fed and do not suffer from trichinae while German hogs are fed on refuse. The fact of the matter is that the being will fed, are much more liable and in reality are more generally so affected. About the only cases of trichinae discovered in this country are from German hologna, etc. We eat ninety per cent of our pork product and do not find the disease, and the Germans have a weak case in attempting to prove the other ten per cent affected. Doctor Hickman, the Government meat inspector at New York, points out that it is practically impossible for affected beef to get past inspection. Beef undergoes the microscopic inspection of three examiners, each one ignorant of what the other has discovered.

OTHER DISEASES IN GERMANY. Reports indicate the prevalence of the foot and mouth disease in Germany. The government officials there are, it is said, unable to cope with the loathsome disease, which is endangering whole herds, and they recommend the immediate slaughter of every animal found to be affected, the owner to be compensated.

EXTENT OF SUGAR IMPORTATIONS. An idea of the value expended for our annual importations of sugar can be gathered from a comparison with the values of some of our staple exports. It required the total amount of wheat and flour exported by the United States during 1896 to pay for the sugar imported that year. The total value of all live and dressed beef, beef products and lard exported during the past year barely equalled the amount paid for imported sugar. Our enormous export trade in cotton—supplying the world—represents in value only twice as much as our imports of sugar. Our vast exports of tobacco must be trebled to counterbalance our sugar imports. Last year's exports of barley, oats, rye, fruits, and nuts, hops, vegetable oils, oleo margarine, butter and cheese, pork and hams, all taken together, represents in value only two-thirds of the sugar imported.

THE FARMER'S GARDEN.

One of the oldest agricultural writers of the country, who is now employed in the Department of Agriculture, still continues his practical interest in the farm and garden. He owns a little place about eight miles out of Washington and for the last three Saturdays when I have visited the Department and inquired at his desk for news, he has been away "on leave,"

planting his garden, pruning his trees and superintending the thousand and one things to be attended to at this season of the year on a farm. There are few things of more importance or real necessity on a farm than a good garden. A liberal and varied supply of fresh vegetables is indispensable to the good health and well being of the family. This gentleman has been in the farming and gardening business for fifty years and yet, not a year passes that does not find him making a dozen experiments. In the first place, however, he looks to getting his soil in the best possible condition, beginning on this in the fall, and then nursing his compost heap during the winter. When the warm days come, this needs watching; if it has more than a gentle heat, he thrusts a crowbar through the heap in various places and pours cold water into the holes.

While the little "hand garden" is necessary in some cases, it is conceded that it is generally unpractical and should be abandoned wherever possible. Let the arrangement of the garden be by long rows where the horse and the cultivator can do the heavy part of the work.

To be tender and succulent, vegetables must be quick of growth, and to accomplish this, requires rich, warm soil. Fall plowing is certainly advisable, with previous applications of manure, as freezing mellow the soil and kills insects; also, land so plowed is usually capable of being worked earlier in the spring. A good start with the garden is a matter of great satisfaction to the gardener. The earliest vegetables are always the most highly relished. Give the garden a little forethought and the time and work spent on it will be more repaid by a bountiful table. It pays to have a garden rich enough and good enough to be able to grow heavy crops. It takes as much labor and time to raise half crop as it does a full one. It is more than an occasional practice for the farmer to neglect the garden when the farm work begins to push. Then the weeds grow and it becomes hard work to get the garden back into shape again. I have a Virginia friend (Virginians are not all the best gardeners) who starts out in the spring with enthusiasm, making an excellent garden and even looking far ahead for supplies from it for the next winter. As the days get hotter and dryer and the weeds start, he thinks less and less of his garden, until, in the summer, he lets it take care, pretty much, of itself. Just after a rain, it is too wet to cultivate, and in a day or two it is too dry and hard for his hoe to make an impression. Thorough cultivation makes success with gardening, to an even greater extent than preparation. It should be cultivated, if possible, after every rain, just as soon as you can get on it, and prevent any crust from forming. Give it deep

cultivation, and later, when the roots are reaching out, tickle the ground's surface, and do not at any time cease this during the summer. Weed seeds are shot their heads above ground, a slight agitation of the soil, even a simple raking, followed by a few hours' sun will kill them dead than Hector, while if they are allowed to grow for a few days and send down their long roots, it takes a thorough hoeing with treble labor to kill them. When preparing for early vegetables, uncultivated ground, left for later crops should be kept stirred lest to break the crust and destroy the weeds. My friend, first mentioned, has successions of peas, beans, beets and corn all through the season, and later successions of tomatoes, linns, etc. An immense amount of truck can be grown on a little patch of rich ground if the rotation is properly managed. It doesn't pay to plant too close, either. It would surprise most people if they could see the root systems of crops and how most of them entirely occupy the ground. If planting is too close, while there may be plenty of food in the soil, plants will suffer greatly from drought.

Sweet potatoes can be grown successfully in many sections lately thought unfitted. They form a great addition to the table, and the vines, before frosted, make splendid food for cows, being rich in nitrogen. One side of the garden should be left for permanent growths. A row of leek-plants produces not only a luxury, coming in the early spring, but a most valuable medicinal article of diet. Every farmer and gardener should raise his own small fruit at least. Strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and grapes, as well as the larger fruits, pears, apples, peaches, etc., will furnish our only fresh fruit for the table, but products for canning for the winter, supplying the family with not only luxuries but necessities to good living and a healthful and varied diet. If anybody is in a position to have his table supplied with good fresh staples and delicacies, it is the farmer. In the growing of small fruits on the farm, mulching can be practised to great advantage. It saves labor, smother out the weeds and grass, and protect the roots from the hot sun. Give the rows a clean cultivation and then apply the mulch. It will keep them moist, too.

GUY E. MITCHELL.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one cure for disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages as of that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietor has no other aim in his curative powers, that they offer the highest reward for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: F. J. CENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

TWO LITTLE APRIL-FOOLS.

Downy dawn looked up at the sun,
And saw with delight that the spring had begun;
Her gay yellow bonnet, of satin so sweet,
And her downy green skirt so cozy and neat
She drew on in haste, and glanced out on the street,
And found herself blooming—the very first one!
Little Miss Bessie looked out, and she said;
"Oh, it is lovely and bright overhead!"
So she took her new parasol, blue as the sky,
And her new Sunday hat, with its daisies
wreathed high.
And the pretty bronze slippers she brought
home to try.
And out on the street like a fairy she sped.
Dark grew the sky, and like sleet was the rain,
Lashing the tree-tops and beating the pane.
Daffodilly tried vainly to hide,
And little Miss Bessie, in her beauty and pride,
With hat, shoes, and parasol soaking, she
cried:
"The sun April-fooled us! He did—it is plain!"
—Mrs. McVean-Adams.

A BIT OF FOOLERY.

"Hi, Johnny!"
Johnny turned around quickly, and there stood Ned Spurling with a little roll of something that looked exactly like paper money in his hand. Johnny put down his basket of apples and ran out to the gate.

"O Ned, what've you got?"
Ned's black eyes snapped with the fun in them. "Greenbacks, banknotes," said he, laughing. "April fool ones, don't you see, Johnny! Why, I might have fooled you just as easy as a wink!"

"Where'd you get 'em?" asked Johnny.
"My cousin Dick sent 'em to me. There advertising on 'em, you know. I'm going to give you half, and we'll have fun dropping 'em in the street and seeing folks pick 'em up. They look just like money when they're folded up small."

So they did; but the boys didn't realize how much until they had compared them with a brand new paper dollar which Uncle John had given his namesake that very morning, and which Johnny now pulled out of his vest pocket, between his thumb and finger, with quite a grown-up air.

"Why don't they look alike?" he cried.

"Won't it be fun, Ned?"
I am almost afraid to tell you just how many people they fooled with those little wads of paper during the course of the forenoon. Some people looked cross and tore the paper in bits, and others only laughed, and folded it again and threw it down.

"It's time now to go to dinner, there's father," said Ned. "Good-by, Johnny, we'll do something else this afternoon!"

Away ran Ned, and Johnny, who had one bill left, walked slowly toward home, wondering whom he could fool for the last one. It was getting to be an old story, and Johnny had begun to think of giving it up, when looking back, he saw Katy Neal coming, poor little Katy Neal whose dress was patched in many places, and whose shoes were out at the toes. To tell the truth Johnny didn't feel just right about fooling her.

"But it's only fun, after all," he said to himself, walking slower and slower.

So he let the doubled-up bit of paper drop. Katy picked it up, and hurried to catch Johnny.

"I found this," she said, "is it yours?"

"'Twas mine," Johnny said, "but I dropped it, and I'll give it to you."

"O-oh," gasped Katy, "oh, thank you, oh, thank you. Now, I can buy—"

How eager the voice was, and the thin, pale little face! and how the poor little hands that felt the bill trembled. Johnny couldn't help wishing it was a real bill.

But he wanted to see the fun all the same. So he followed the hurrying little figure up the street to the corner grocery, and looked in the window to see Katy make her purchases. Somehow he didn't like to go in himself.

This was beginning to seem like a mean piece of fun to John, for he hated mean things, and often said he wouldn't be mean for anything if he knew it.

"Now I just wish I had it back," he thought, as he saw Mr. North go on weighing out a bit of tea and sugar and rice and a few crackers. "I wish I did!"

For what would Mr. North do and say to poor, innocent little Katy when he came to find out he'd been fooled! Johnny wondered, feeling as if he wanted to run away.

But Mr. North didn't find out. He took the bill and tucked it into his money drawer and gave Katy her change. Mr. North was near-sighted and had to wear glasses, Johnny knew.

"Hoorsy, he's fooled himself," he cried, darting away just as Katy, with her glad, eager little face, and her arms full of the tiny bundles, came tripping out. "That's the best of all! I—oh!"

A queer look flashed over Johnny's face. He stopped still and thrust his thumb and finger first into one vest pocket and then the other.

"Why, I—I'm the one that's fooled," he said, with a funny little catch in his voice.

"I—I put that dollar Uncle John gave me in this left pocket, and 'tisn't there. I forgot all about it, we were having such fun, and that's the one I dropped in front of Katy Neal."

"Whew! but I—I won't tell anybody," he added, starting on a run toward home.

"I wouldn't have Ned Spurling find that out for fifty hundred dollars! I guess I wouldn't!"

He did tell mamma, however, first getting her to promise she wouldn't say a word about it.

"Wasn't that the greatest you ever heard?" he said. "I tell you I felt cheap! But come to think it over, I'm glad enough 'twas me instead of Katy that got fooled. I guess I am! And I know it served me just right, mamma!"

"I am glad my boy sees it as I do," said Johnny's mother, with a happy smile on her face.—Household.

Adversity is a trial of principle. Without it a man hardly knows whether he is honest or not.—Fielding.

How Grandpa April-Fooled the Pig.

"Well, March is going out like a lion, sure enough," said grandpa, as he laid down his paper and drew nearer the fire. "How he does roar!"

Now it happened that Johnny and Nelly were heartily tired of all their games, and even of planning April-Fool jokes for the next day, so when they noticed how cheery and inviting grandpa looked, with his specs pushed back on his white hair and his slippers toasting at the grate, they made a rush for him on the spot, and soon began to beg for a story.

"Couldn't you tell us one 'bout April Fool?" begged Nelly.

"Do tell us how you fooled some one some time," urged Johnny.

"But I don't know as I ever did," said grandpa, taking his spectacles off his head and looking at them very hard.

"You're the beatin'est hands for stories, anyway," he went on, slowly pulling out his red silk handkerchief.

"Let me see," he said, "and he began to polish the glasses carefully, and kept on rubbing even when they were very bright indeed, while Johnny and Nelly nodded and winked at each other, for they thought grandpa's doing that was a sure sign of a story.

"Well," said grandpa, at last, "so I did! I did! I got off a pretty good April-Fool joke once, and it worked first-rate, too; but it didn't fool any one, either—that is, not any person—nobody but Peter, and you see Peter was just a pig. At d come to think of it, 'twasn't April at all—guess 'twas about July or August; I know the pumpkins were pretty green yet, and he couldn't let 'em be. That's why we called him Peter."

"Peter, Peter, punkin-eater," you know. But how he got at 'em—that was the mystery of it! You see they grew in a cornfield, and the next field wasn't a field at all, but a batch of woods that neighbor Gibbs used for a hog pasture."

"I had a good rail fence all 'round my corn—and the bottom rails were big logs—and how on earth Peter could get in was what I couldn't see. I hunted high and low for the gap, but 'twas no use. I couldn't find a place handy big enough for a cat, say nothing of Peter, that was a good sized hog. And yet the old punkin-eater was in that field every single day, and some nights, I guess, and the way he chewed up the little pumpkins and rooted among the corn wasn't very funny to me, I tell you!"

"At last I saw him as he came in, and that let the cat out of the bag—no, it let Peter out of the log—tor, you see, he'd found a great big hollow one in the fence, and the way a worm fence is laid brought one end in the wood—and one end in the cornfield. See—this way!" and grandpa began to lay a rail fence on the carpet with sticks of wood.

"Now, you see, 's'posin' this was a big hollow log; Peter went right in at this end, and came out in the cornfield, when he could play 'punkin-eater' to his heart's content. I couldn't help laughing to see how sick he managed it—for it must have been a middlin' tight squeeze; and then I laughed at him when I thought how I could fool him out of it."

"You see, I just waited till he got back where he belonged, and then I shifted the log—this way—so that both ends opened into the woods, and yet it lay pretty near the same place as before. Then I got your grandma to go with me and watch Peter try the new route."

"We didn't have to wait very long till he took it into his head that he wanted some punkins; so in he went at the end of the log where he always did, and out he came at the other end, and there he was in the woods same as before!"

"He sniffed around and looked monstrous surprised, and then back he went to the other end and through it again! He did look so funny! Your grandma laughed till her back came 'till out and broke right in two, and still Peter kept going in and out, and looking wilder every time. You wouldn't believe a pig could look so astonish-ed."

"Wonder what he thought," said Nelly, when she and Johnny stopped giggling.

"Don't know, I'm sure," said grandpa, "but I know what I thought. I thought I'd rather cultivate my corn without Peter's help, and I wanted a punkin or two for Thanksgiving."—Exchange.

ANI APRIL FOOL.

As little John Drury awoke in the dawning, chilly and gray, of April's morning (The day that is given to trick and fun), He laughed to himself and said, "I'll be jolly."

Hastily dressing, down stairs he went creeping. While all in the house were quietly sleeping. To the kitchen he tiptoed—he really was quiet. This youngster so given to racket and riot.

He emptied the ashes and kindled the fire. Dropped the shovel but once in his evil desire. To be still as a mouse. He swept up the floor. Put the teakettle on, and then plumed on the door.

A card; and on this card in words of large size, "April Fool" he had written—not a pleasant surprise.

To one who suspects the tricks it oft means, Said in the sugar bowl, brine in the beans.

When his mother came to see him and his When his mother came to see him and his When his mother came to see him and his

She opened the door and down on his knees Was Johnny with dustpan and brush, so intent That never a sound did he hear as she went Very softly behind him, till over his head Her apron she threw and cheerily said:

"Is the April Fool here, or a fairy—who it is Come so early this morning to pay me a visit? I thought when upstairs it was chilly and dreary,

But my kitchen I find is so warm and so cheery I must be a fairy some charm has been working. Or dear April Fool who's not given to shirking."

As he pulled off the apron with blushes and laughter "Shall we play April Fool every morning hereafter?" She asked with smiles—and somehow or other Johnny could not decide whether he or his mother

Were the happier one—and I really must own 'Twas the best April joke I ever had known.—The Household.

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangements with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Home Corner Plaid Pattern* at a very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them in the past. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

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Address.....

No. of Pattern.....

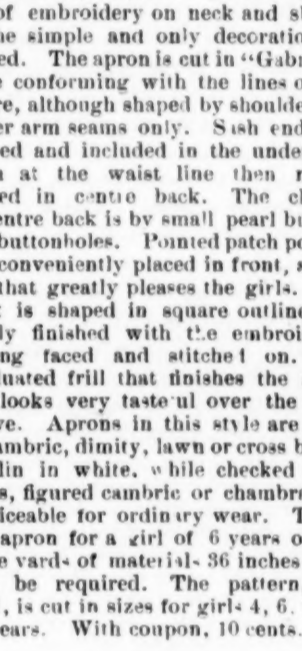
Size.....

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.



73-1-Girl's Gabrielle Apron.

Plaid nansook is used for this dainty apron, which may be worn at school or at play to cover up an old or afford protection to a new dress. A narrow edging of embroidery on neck and sleeves is the simple and only decoration required. The apron is cut in "Gabrielle" style conforming with the lines of the figure, although shaped by shoulder and under arm seams only. Such ends are plaided and included in the under arm seam at the waist line then neatly bowed in centre back. The closing in centre back is by small pearl buttons and buttonholes. Pointed patch pockets are conveniently placed in front, a feature that greatly pleases the girls. The neck is shaped in square outline and firmly finished with the embroidered edging faced and stitched on. The graduated frill that finishes the arm's eye looks very tasteful over the dress sleeve. Aprons in this style are made of cambric, dimity, lawn or cross barred muslin in white, or hille checked ginghams, figured cambric or chambray are serviceable for ordinary wear. To cut this apron for a girl of 6 years of age three yards of material—36 inches wide will be required. The pattern, No. 73-1, is cut in sizes for girls 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. With coupon, 10 cents.



No. 7318-Ladies and Misses' Shirt Waist.

The model shown in the illustration is of pale blue pique in a heavy rib. The yoke, which is single pointed, is named at the center back and extends over the shoulders on to the fronts. The latter are full and pouch slightly, the gathers at both neck and waist being collected in a narrow space at each side of the center-front. The edge of the right side is finished with a box-pleat, and the closing is effected by means of buttonholes worked through the center and buttons sewed on the left side. The body portion of the back is slightly full and is arranged in gathers at the yoke edge and again at the waist line. Between it and the fronts are smooth under-arm gores. The sleeves are one-piece in regulation shirt style and are finished at the wrist with straight cuffs. At the neck is a high collar. With it worn a string tie of black satin, and at the waist is a belt of black silk. To make this waist for a lady in the medium sizes will require three and one-fourth yards of thirty-six-inch material or three and one-fourth yards of thirty-inch material. The pattern, No. 7318, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure, and for misses of twelve, fourteen and sixteen years. With coupon, ten cents.

No wash material can be relied on to do better service than genuine Scotch gingham. This stylish waist illustrated is made of plaid, which has a ground of deep cream that borders on tan color, with lines of white and green. With it are worn both tie and belt of black, which accentuate the truly artistic coloring. The yoke is three-pointed and extends well over the shoulders on to the fronts. The plaid portion of the waist proper is laid in flat plaits at the centre of the yoke and drawn down to the waist line. The fronts are simply full and show the slightest possible pouch. Both the upper and lower edges are arranged in gathers, the ful-

ness of the former being stitched to the neck band and yoke, while the latter are drawn toward the front and attached to the band. Smooth under-arm gores separate them from the back and aid in the fitting. The closing is effected by buttons and button-holes. The sleeves



No. 7313-Ladies' Shirt Waist.

are small, after the season's style, but cut after the regulation shirt pattern. At the wrists are straight cuffs with rounded points, and at the neck is a high standing collar. To make this waist for a lady in the medium size will require three and one-fourth yards of thirty-six-inch material. The pattern, No. 7313, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure. With coupon, 10 cents.

A late letter from a Berlin correspondent of the Dry Goods Economist gives us an inkling of German styles and ideas. He says:

The use of checked goods, although still popular, appears to be confined to young persons, while plain goods are preferred by the elders. The English style of waist will supplant the Russian blouse for spring. Skirts are richly trimmed with cords and borders.

Sprinkled designs are noted among the poplins, especially in the so-called "Yokohamas"; the grounds are black and white. Black leaf designs, some distance apart, are particularly attractive, and they show up well at a little distance and disappear in the ground when viewed closely. Large checks in white silk threads look as if they had been stitched on the ground; single lines render the checks indistinct, a better effect being produced by three lines.

Branded effects predominate in women's goods. They are shown with small checks, a white and blue or white and brown, and a border of what appears to be wide stripes of narrow colored braid laid close together. The new "Nansen" cloth has a light woolen ground with braid stripes that run over and across and under and lengthwise, producing a relief effect. Covert cloths are popular for traveling gowns. They are in gray and brown, with light-green or grayish-blue tint shade effects.

Materials for waist differ from costume materials through greater originality of design worked out in few colors, but sharply outlined instead of blurred. For instance, a white ground will show colored checks, the lines of which are edged with black. Another pattern shows stripes of two contrasting colors—that is, the two colors, a red and green, are combined in a single stripe. The effect where the colors cross at the intersections of the checks is excellent, as the checks are quartered and really show three different tones. One quarter is red, one green and the others are of the mixed colors.

An exception to the style of these goods is noted in white wool material showing two-colored "window" one-k, which, because of the apparent irregularity of the inter-ribbons, show bits of white at intervals. When these are small the stripes appear to be broken irregularly.

Millinery is undergoing changes many and various, says a fashion writer. Masses of beautiful pink roses are very fashionable decorations for the new toques and toun hats. Austrian feathers on front and compact clusters of leafless roses at the back is a style of trimming persistently repeated. Crinkled straws and crinkled chiffon are much in request. Besides the roses and delicate spring flowers like the violet, jonquil and narcissus, French milliners are using in combination with velvet in nasurtium shade the rich, velvety nasturtium blossoms themselves, which graduate from deepest red to tawny brown and shade from any number of pale yellow and dark orange tints to the rich mahogany colors.

Any woman who is a fairly competent dressmaker can greatly improve upon the majority of skirts one sees every day upon the streets. There are several fashionable methods of cutting such the Woman's World. There are gores skirts lined throughout, with lining and outside made up together, and there are go skirts made with a separate "gore" over a foundation skirt to which it is joined only at the waistband. There is also the circular skirt which has but one seam, and this is sometimes lined, and sometimes made in drop style.

All good dressmakers to-day line their skirts so that the seams are turned toward the outside, leaving a smooth finish upon the under side of the skirt.

All skirts for street wear that are made of cloth require an inner facing about the foot to preserve the smoothness, and to give the flare that is so fashionable. The best stiffening is haircloth in a good grade. The best grades are not heavy, and they give buoyancy that nothing else can. Moreover, and this is very important, good haircloth lasts as long as the skirt does. Poor grades of haircloth and other poor stiffenings lose their stiffness, and the last state of a skirt lined with "substitutes" for good haircloth is unenviable. When the skirt is made with a foundation under a drop, seam up the lining, lay the haircloth on the lining next the seams. Cover the haircloth with a facing of the dress goods and stitch on along the top. Turn the bottom of the haircloth, also folded, and then turn in the raw edge of the lining and baste along smoothly. This gives a nice finish over which to lay the velvet or braid that is used to protect the edge of the

skirt. The seams of the lining are turned toward the outer drop when the skirt is completed.

When the skirt is lined throughout the lining is seamed separately, and the haircloth, after being seamed, is laid against the wrong side of the lining and stitched into place along the top edge. Then the skirt breadth proper, seamed and pressed, are fitted over the lining, placing the haircloth between the lining and the outside. The raw edge of the outside is then turned down over the folded edge of the haircloth and the lining is basted down upon the double folded edges as in the case of the foundation and drop style of skirt. This gives an interlining that is held by a row of stitching on the lining at the top, and by the outside at the foot.

It is very important to cut haircloth and all other linings on the identical grain of the lining and the outside. Lap the raw edges and stitch, and then cover each raw edge with a strip of lining stitched down on each side of the strip. This prevents raveling of the hairs, which if left to ravel work through the goods. Poor haircloth shrinks, stretches, bulges and wrinkles. Good haircloth is the dressmaker's ally. Every first-class tailor uses it, and it is essential to a correctly made cloth dress.

Home dressmakers usually baste too lightly. By basting liberally the fret and troubles of dressmaking are largely obliterated.

At this time of the year, gentle Annie, or bustling Hannah, whichever is mistress of the home, should give culinary matters—the choice and preparation of the daily diet of the family—preference over all other domestic considerations except the sanitary condition of the house and the adjacent grounds says the N. Y. Observer. Whether it is more the kind or amount of food that we consume during the winter months that brings us to the enervating weather of spring with the sluggish circulation and overworked digestive organs that cause lassitude and the various ills which we so complacently accept as essential forerunners of spring, is of comparatively little consequence now. Once here with health tottering in the balance we must trim our sails to suit the craft and weather by adopting a proper diet or else stay in the old rut and depend on "spring bitters" to start the clogged wheels.

If possible, serve only proper kinds of food, but at the same time bear in mind the fact that edibles whose health-giving qualities are aggressively emphasized are almost sure to defeat their own ends save with confirmed dyspeptics, or those who are invalid in mind as well as body.

Breakfast, always important because it does more than any other one thing to pitch the keynote of the day for the most of us, should be made especially inviting and wholesome in early spring when the appetite so often needs tempting. Acids are the best tonic and aids to digestion, and should have a place on every breakfast table. As a rule, lemon juice or fresh fruit are the most delightful ways of serving it. In the country, where fresh fruits are not easily obtained, dried prunes or other fruit or evaporated fruit skillfully prepared, make an appetizing substitute.

But avoid cloying sweetness. The season of sweets and preserves is over. Whether fruit shall be eaten first or last at breakfast is coming to be quite a disputed question, and is, perhaps, one of the things that each must answer for him-self. But eat it, do so for breakfast, if at no other meal, and perhaps you cannot do a more helpful act of self-denial, whether it looked at from the physical or spiritual standpoint, than to abstain from fresh fruit for rich pleasures and indulgences that are "almost the last straw" to your digestive machinery, for the remainder of Lent.

Meats are considered essential have broiled steak and chops, British heavy sausage, ham, and, indeed all cuts of pork, except bacon, and be sure not to let the latter stand in its own fat one minute after it is sufficiently fried, but take out and drain on warm manilla paper.

It takes at least a half hour longer to digest fried meat or other food than it does that cooked in any other ordinary way, but the former is far less likely to be greasy by deep frying than when only a little fat is used in a shallow fry pan. In fact, if croquettes or other preparations of meat, fish or fowl are eggs and breaded fifteen minutes before they are fried and then immersed in smoking hot fat, and removed from it the minute they are done, they will never be sodden and greasy. Flouring should be done immediately before frying.

Shredded codfish or remnants of other baked or boiled fish that were flaked while warm are delicious creamed for breakfast, and can be served in a variety of ways. Make a plain sauce of milk and butter, or of milk brought to a boil and thickened with one tablespoonful of flour rubbed into an equal amount of butter. Add the flaked fish and stir with a fork until heated through; serve alone, on slices of toast or on patty shells. If the latter, sprinkle the top with sifted bread crumbs, dot with butter and brown in the oven. If preferred the creamed fish may receive a flavor of onion, parsley or celery; or two or three eggs, or a teaspoonful of mashed potato can be added to the sauce with the fish.

So much has been said of the nutritive value of eggs that it would seem as though every housewife, certainly every one who needs to economize closely in domestic expenditures (and there are few who do not) would appreciate it, continues the same article. But how many of the more than two hundred ways in which they are said to be served are seen in our ordinary menus? Start a reformation; if only to see how great a variety of tempting and wholesome omelets you can easily serve for breakfast by simply adding the prepared bits of meat, fowl or vegetables that were left over from the previous day to a plain omelet. Mince cold ham, beef or mutton fine, season well and heat; reheat canned peas, beans, corn, tomatoes or other vegetables having them rather dry, and spread a layer over one-half of an omelet just before turning it. Always serve an omelet on a warm dish; an omelet pan ought never to be used for frying other food.

Hopeful Words to Childless Women.

The darkest days of husband and wife are when they come to look forward to a childless and desolate old age.

Many a wife has found herself incapable of motherhood owing to some great lack of strength in the organs of generation. Such a condition is nearly always due to long continued neglect of the plainest warnings.

Frequent backache and distressing pains accompanied by offensive discharges and generally by irregular and scanty menstruation, indicate a nerve degeneration of the womb and surrounding organs, that unless speedily checked will result in barrenness.

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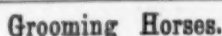
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